

Pat Quinn
Governor

Arthur D. Bishop
Director

James R. Thompson Center, 100 West Randolph Street, Suite 4-200, Chicago, IL 60601
Telephone: (312) 814-3017 / TDD: (800) 526-0844



September 16, 2011

Dan R. Long
Executive Director
Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability
703 Stratton Office Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice
Illinois Youth Center at Murphysboro Recommendation for Closure

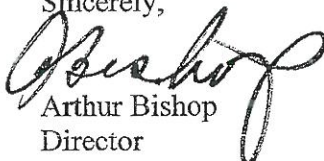
Dear Mr. Long:

Pursuant to the State Facilities Closure Act, 30 ILCS 608/5-10, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice is submitting its recommendation for the closure of the Illinois Youth Center at Murphysboro. As required, the enclosed report outlines the following:

1. Location and identity of the facility;
2. Number of employees affected, and the effect of the closure on those employees;
3. Location to which affected employees and/or work functions would move;
4. Availability and condition of land and facilities at both the current and proposed locations;
5. Ability to accommodate functions and employees at both the current and proposed locations;
6. Cost of operations at both the current and proposed locations along with any other related budgetary impacts;
7. Economic impact on surrounding communities at both the current and proposed locations;
8. Ability of the current and proposed locations to provide the infrastructure to support functions and employees;
9. Impact of service delivery to both the current and proposed locations; and
10. Environmental impact, including the impact, including the impact of costs related to environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding the information outlined in the enclosed report.

Sincerely,


Arthur Bishop
Director

**Recommendation for the Closure of
Illinois Youth Center-Murphysboro**

***Response to the Commission on
Government Forecasting and Accountability***

Submitted by:

Director Arthur Bishop

Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice

September 16, 2011

Introduction

For FY2012, the General Revenue Fund (GRF) budget appropriation for the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) totals \$119,349,800. This appropriation level reflects a \$15,518,300 reduction from the introduced request level of \$134,868,100. Due to the fact that nearly 89% of the Department's total budget goes toward the operation of youth facilities, the unfortunate reality is that facilities will have to be impacted in order to achieve this level of reduction.

To meet the FY2012 budget appropriation, IDJJ is implementing several reductions. These reductions include not providing the union pay increases, placing restrictions on staff hires, and closing Illinois Youth Center-Murphysboro.

As of August 31, 2011, IDJJ's youth population was 1,113. This population level is 13 youth below the population from the same time period a year ago and 119 youth below the population level from two years ago. Specifically, the youth population at IYC-Murphysboro, a Level 3 Minimum Male facility, is 59. IYC-Murphysboro has a capacity to hold a total of 156 youth. Overall, the IDJJ facilities have a total capacity of 1,754. With a current population of 1,113, there is more than enough bed space in the juvenile system to accommodate the closure of IYC-Murphysboro.

Per the State Facilities Closure Act (30 ILCS 608 5/10), IDJJ is required to provide the Commission on Government Forecasting and Accountability (COGFA) information concerning the ten specific items listed below:

1. Location and identity of the facility
2. Number of employees affected, and the effect of the closure on those employees
3. Location to which affected employees and/or work functions would move
4. Availability and condition of land and facilities at both the current and proposed locations
5. Ability to accommodate functions and employees at both the current and proposed locations
6. Cost of operations at both the current and proposed locations along with any other related budgetary impacts
7. Economic impact on surrounding communities at both the current and proposed locations
8. Ability of the current and proposed locations to provide the infrastructure to support functions and employees
9. Impact of service delivery to both the current and proposed locations
10. Environmental impact, including the impact of costs related to environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities

Responses to the aforementioned items follow below:

1. Location and identity of the facility

Illinois Youth Center – Murphysboro
636 Elza Brantley Drive
Murphysboro, Illinois 62966

2. Number of employees affected, and the effect of the closure on those employees

IYC-Murphysboro employed a total of 101 staff, as of August 31, 2011 including several on official Leave of Absence. There are also several pending retirements. As part of the plan to terminate operations at IYC-Murphysboro, all staff would be affected as operations of the facility as a youth center would cease effective January 1, 2012.

The Department intends to take every measure possible to minimize the impact of the closure on these staff. For the purposes of a layoff, the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (IDJJ) and the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) are treated as one agency. This means that the impacted staff from Murphysboro can not only be offered vacancies within IDJJ, but in IDOC as well. There are two other IDJJ youth centers located in Southern Illinois. One is IYC-Harrisburg which is located approximately 45 miles from Murphysboro. The other is IYC-Pere Marquette which is located in Grafton, Illinois, approximately 127 miles from Murphysboro. IDJJ intends to offer at least 9 vacancies at Harrisburg and an additional 9 vacancies at Pere Marquette. In addition to these IDJJ vacancies, IDOC can offer the following vacancies to staff that qualify:

- Pinckneyville Correctional Center – 25 miles, 12 vacancies
- Menard Correctional Center – 31 miles, 48 vacancies
- Tamms Correctional Center – 45 miles, 19 vacancies
- Shawnee Correctional Center – 48 miles, 23 vacancies
- Vienna Correctional Center – 48 miles, 34 vacancies
- Big Muddy Correctional Center – 50 miles, 13 vacancies

There are potentially 158 vacancies available for the Murphysboro staff that are within 50 miles of IYC-Murphysboro. Filling vacancies at other institutions will assist both Departments in reducing overtime liabilities, resulting in additional cost savings.

3. Location to which affected employees and/or work functions would move

The Department currently maintains 8 youth centers housing 1,113 youth with a current staffing level of 1,235. As mentioned above, vacancies will be offered throughout IDJJ but we anticipate that given the number of available vacancies to be offered in the geographic region of Murphysboro that most (if not all) employees, will take advantage of vacancies offered at IYC-Harrisburg, Pinckneyville CC, Menard CC, Tamms CC, Shawnee CC, Vienna CC, and Big Muddy CC. Not all work functions for the potentially

displaced staff will be moved directly to one location; functions will be dispersed throughout the juvenile system with the youth population being shifted to available beds at IYC-Pere Marquette, IYC-Chicago and IYC-St. Charles.

4. Availability and condition of land and facilities at both the current and proposed locations.

IYC-Murphysboro was opened in 1997 as a juvenile boot camp facility. The land is owned by the State of Illinois. The property consists of approximately 34 acres of land with an asphalt parking lot, outdoor recreation areas and 5 buildings including:

- Main Building which contains all staff offices and common areas, classrooms, youth dormitories and common areas, kitchen and dining hall, and recreational facilities- 44,560 sq. ft.
- Greenhouse- 1440 sq. ft.
- Maintenance Shop- 1536 sq. ft.
- Records Storage Building- 864 sq. ft.
- Maintenance Storage Building- 768 sq. ft.

Upon closure, IDJJ will vacate the facilities and deem them excess property for appropriate handling.

As mentioned previously, Murphysboro has a capacity for 156 youth but had a population of only 59 youth as of August 31, 2011. Upon the closure of IYC-Murphysboro, IDJJ intends to relocate population as needed to the following facilities:

- IYC-Pere Marquette – 19 youth
 - Capacity – 68
 - Population as of 8/31/11 – 18
- IYC-Chicago – 22 youth
 - Capacity - 130
 - Population as of 8/31/11 – 97
- IYC-St. Charles – 18 youth
 - Capacity – 318
 - Population as of 8/31/11 – 227

5. Ability to accommodate functions and employees at both the current and proposed locations

Upon the closure of IYC-Murphysboro, IDJJ functions at this facility will be non-existent as there will be no youth housed there. As set forth above, there is sufficient space at other IDJJ facilities with minimal staffing increases to accommodate additional population.

6. Cost of operations at both the current and proposed locations along with any other related budgetary impacts

The FY2012 appropriation for IYC-Murphysboro totals \$8,640,900. If the facility is closed effective December 31, 2011, the Fiscal Year 2012 savings at IYC-Murphysboro will be approximately \$4,320,450. However, there are also costs associated with relocation of the population of 59 youth currently located at Murphysboro to other facilities.

The average per capita marginal cost, per youth, is \$19,128 annually. This includes costs for food, clothing, personal care and educational supplies, health care, mental health, substance abuse or other treatment as needed, transportation and related costs. These costs will still be incurred for this population of youth, in other facilities, for the remaining six months of FY2012.

In addition, three facilities (Chicago, Pere Marquette, and St. Charles) to which the Murphysboro population will transfer will require some staffing increases to open unused cottages, wings or housing units and to ensure the appropriate treatment and educational needs of these youth are met, as follows:

IYC-Pere Marquette	7 staff
IYC-Chicago:	6 staff
IYC-St. Charles	4 staff

The increased staffing and ongoing marginal costs per youth for the Murphysboro population would total an estimated \$1,198,726 for the final six months of FY2012.

Given these costs, the Fiscal Year 2012 net savings associated with the closure is approximately \$3,121,724. On an annual basis moving forward, assuming all other things equal, the cost savings would be approximately \$6,243,448.

7. Economic impact on surrounding communities at both the current and proposed locations

IDJJ requested an analysis from the Regional Economics Applications Laboratory at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign for this segment of the report. The Department provided applicable information regarding staff salaries, along with annualized expenditures for operations for IYC-Murphysboro. Please note that at the time the analysis was requested IDJJ provided the figure of 96 employees for IYC-Murphysboro, and the economic impact study was based upon that figure. As set forth above, the current number of employees is 101. Fluctuations in employee numbers at the facility, as with all facilities, routinely occur due to ordinary separations and hiring. There may therefore be some slight variation in the economic impact.

The report from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is attached for your review.

8. Ability of the current and proposed locations to provide the infrastructure to support functions and employees

As mentioned above, both Murphysboro and the proposed locations to which 59 youth can move have sufficient space to accommodate this population. Three other IDJJ facilities will require a small number of additional staff to increase capacity. IDJJ's overall population has been declining over recent years, which enables the Department to easily absorb the current youth population from Murphysboro.

9. Impact of service delivery to both the current and proposed locations

Given IDJJ's overall population of 1,113 with an institutional capacity of 1,754, IDJJ can accommodate the closure of Murphysboro without impacting services to the youth as long as the necessary staff are provided at the facilities where these youth will be transferred. This closure also assists IDJJ in meeting its FY2012 budget appropriation which was \$15.5 million less than what was requested in the FY2012 introduced budget request.

10. Environmental impact, including the impact of costs related to environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities

There is no known environmental impact associated with the closure of this facility.